

Pest Control – What Are My Options?

Whether it's a greenfly infestation or the neighbours cat, there are a wide variety of different pests that can be a nuisance or cause damage. But there are steps that can be taken to protect your garden. There is an extensive range of pest control products available that are incredibly effective at repelling or killing pests depending on their species.

[Cat and dog repellents](#) – Cat and dog repellent generally comes in spray, gel, or powder form and is made with a natural aromatic plant extract. Cats and dogs despise the smell and will stay away keeping your garden pest free, but the odour is relatively mild to humans. You should only need to use the product a few times, as pest animals will learn quickly to avoid the area. As with all pesticides, keep animals and children away from the area until the product has dried, and wash your hands after use.

[Insecticides](#) – Insecticides are a form of pest control that is lethal to insects and in some cases destroys their nests. Depending on the targeted species the product could be a spray/aerosol or a powder in a 'puffer' bottle. Ant killer is generally a powder, and is most efficient when deposited on, or in close proximity to a nest. Greenfly and blackfly spray can be applied directly to the insect and is safe to use around most plants, however its best to check an indiscriminate area before large scale application. Depending on the product, wasp killer can be applied directly to the insect or the nest, but do take care to avoid stings and consult a pest control specialist if necessary.

[Rat and mouse control](#) – Rats and mice can carry disease, so you should deal with them at the very first signs. The most efficient and hygienic way is to use baited 'stations'. These are small plastic boxes encasing a fast acting poison, with a small hole for the animal to gain access. The poison is enticing to the animal, and once digested is fatal within a very short amount of time. Traps should be placed anywhere there has been signs of infestation. This could mean anywhere you have seen droppings, live rats or mice, or by cracks and gaps through which they may be entering your home. Care should be taken to prevent children and pets from accessing the stations, and more than one station can be used if necessary. QVS stock 'rat and mouse killer packs' that are ideal for use with our baited stations.

[Slug Repellent](#) – In wet weather slugs can reach plague proportions in your garden and will very quickly eat through almost any plant and flower you own. You may have heard people speak of cheap home remedies to slug infestation, but in reality nothing beats the potency of slug repellent gel or pellets. QVS slug killers contain ingredients that will break down into useful soil nutrients if the bait isn't eaten, so they're ideal for long term use. To use them, simply scatter pellets or gel in a protective barrier surrounding the crops to be protected. Alternatively, you may wish to use QVS copper tape as a protective barrier. The tape causes an unpleasant shock sensation to slugs when they come into contact with it, and crucially it is non-toxic to humans and other animals. Ideal if you have young children or pets that frequent your garden.

[Fungus Control](#) – Fungus control spray is an ideal product to rid your plants of black spot, mildew and rust. It is safe to use on all known plant species, and regular use will help prevent regrowth of fungus